

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method for managing storage space in a storage medium of digital terminal equipment for data storage of images according to a prioritized pixel transmission method, wherein each image is stored in a data file that consists of an array of individual image pixels, wherein each pixel has a pixel value that describes the color or brightness information of the pixel, ~~wherein a priority value for each pixel of the array is determined by calculating a pixel difference value based on the given pixel value of the pixel in relation to the pixel values of a previously selected group of neighboring pixels, the priority values indicating the relative importance of the respective pixels to the image, the pixels that are used for calculating the priority value are grouped into a pixel group, and pixel groups of the image array are sorted based on their priority value, wherein multiple data files with pixel groups sorted by priority (P1, P2, ..., Pn) are saved to the storage medium, wherein the method comprises~~ comprising the following steps:

- a. determining a priority value for each pixel of the array by calculating a pixel difference value based on the given pixel value of the pixel in relation to the pixel values of a previously selected group of neighboring pixels, the priority values indicating the relative importance of the respective pixels to the image;

b. grouping the pixels that are used for calculating the priority value into a pixel group;

c. sorting pixel groups of the image array based on their priority values;

d. saving multiple data files with pixel groups sorted by priority (P_1, P_2, \dots, P_n) on the storage medium;

~~a.e.~~ selecting a lower priority threshold value (P_u) and an upper priority threshold value (P_o), wherein the priority threshold values indirectly indicate how much information content of a file is stored on the storage medium, the lower priority threshold means that a greater number of pixel groups are available for reconstruction of the image, and the upper priority threshold means that a fewer number of pixel groups are available for reconstruction of the image;

~~b.f.~~ storing files in the form of their pixel groups having priority values between the highest priority (P_1) and a priority corresponding to the selected lower priority threshold value (P_u) until the available storage space of the storage medium has been filled;

~~e.g.~~ increasing the lower priority threshold value (P_u) by one priority level;

~~d.h.~~ deleting pixel groups with a lower priority than that of the current priority threshold value (P_u) on the storage medium when additional storage space is needed on the storage medium to create freed storage space; and

~~e.i.~~ using the freed storage space in the storage medium for storing further data.

2. **(Previously Presented)** A method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising the steps of repeating, in dependence upon the required storage space, steps b)-e) until the upper priority threshold (Po) is reached.

3. **(Previously Presented)** A method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the priority threshold values (Po, Pu) are adjustable by the user of the terminal equipment.

4. **(Previously Presented)** A method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the priority threshold values (Po, Pu) are permanently preset by the manufacturer of the terminal equipment.

5. **(Previously Presented)** A method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the method steps are applied only to certain files selected by the user of the terminal equipment.

6. **(Previously Presented)** A method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the storage medium comprises multiple partial storage areas, wherein for each partial storage area individual priority threshold values are definable.

7. **(Previously Presented)** A method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the data is subdividable into multiple quality classes, wherein for each quality class individual priority threshold values are definable.

8. **(Previously Presented)** A method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the pixel groups are formed from digitized scanning values of an audio signal.

9. **(Previously Presented)** A method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the files contain image data, video data or audio data.

10. **(Previously Presented)** A method as set forth in claim 1, wherein certain image/data areas, such as faces or texts contained in the image can be changed by the user in their prioritization even subsequently.

11. **(Previously Presented)** A method as set forth in claim 2, wherein the priority threshold values (Po, Pu) are adjustable by the user of the terminal equipment.

12. **(Previously Presented)** A method as set forth in claim 11, wherein the method steps are applied only to certain files selected by the user of the terminal equipment.

13. **(Previously Presented)** A method as set forth in claim 12, wherein the storage medium comprises multiple partial storage areas, wherein for each partial storage area individual priority threshold values are definable.

14. **(Previously Presented)** A method as set forth in claim 13, wherein the data is subdividable into multiple quality classes, wherein for each quality class individual priority threshold values are definable.

15. **(Previously Presented)** A method as set forth in claim 14, wherein the pixel groups are formed from digitized scanning values of an audio signal.

16. **(Previously Presented)** A method as set forth in claim 15, wherein the files contain image data, video data or audio data.

17. **(Previously Presented)** A method as set forth in claim 16, wherein certain image/data areas, such as faces or texts contained in the image can be changed by the user in their prioritization even subsequently.

18. **(Previously Presented)** A method as set forth in claim 2, wherein the priority threshold values (Po, Pu) are permanently preset by the manufacturer of the terminal equipment.

19. **(Previously Presented)** A method as set forth in claim 18, wherein the method steps are applied only to certain files selected by the user of the terminal equipment.

20. **(Previously Presented)** A method as set forth in claim 19, wherein the storage medium comprises multiple partial storage areas, wherein for each partial storage area individual priority threshold values are definable.